

# UPPER COLUMBIA – CHEWUCH (CHEWACK) SPRING CHINOOK

Although Chewuch spring Chinook spawn in what is often spelled the Chewack River, Chewuch is used here because it is the preferred tribal spelling.

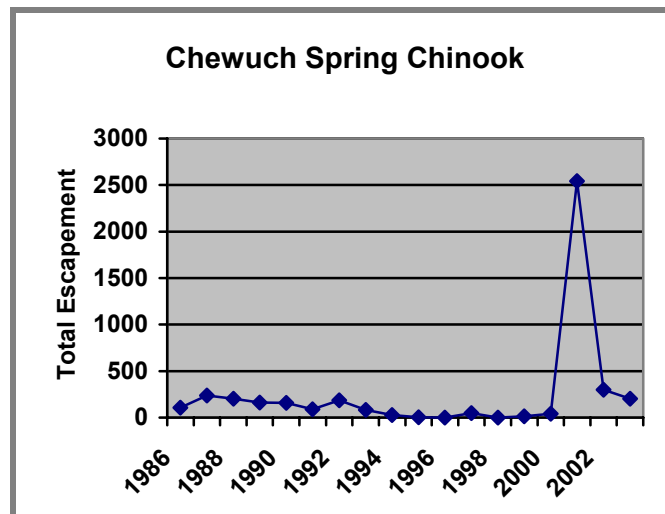
## STOCK STATUS

1992 STATUS <b>Depressed</b>	2002 STATUS <b>Critical</b>
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## STOCK STATUS RATING DATA

USEFULNESS FOR RATING STOCK STATUS: Good

YEAR	TOTAL ESCAPEMENT
1986	105
1987	239
1988	202
1989	160
1990	158
1991	91
1992	185
1993	83
1994	27
1995	2
1996	0
1997	47
1998	0
1999	14
2000	41
2001	2,542
2002	301
2003	204



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Data are total escapement estimates based on redd counts from the mouth of the Chewuch River upstream to the falls at Thirty Mile Bridge.

Stock status is rated **Critical** in 2002 due to **chronically low** escapements. Spawner numbers were so low from 1994 through 2000 that genetic damage to the stock may have occurred.

## STOCK DEFINITION

Chewuch spring Chinook were identified as a stock based on their distinct spawning distribution, river entry timing (May through August) and spawning timing.

**SPAWNING DISTRIBUTION:** Most spawning takes place from the mouth of the Chewuck River upstream to the confluence with Lake Creek.

**SPAWNING TIMING:** Spawning generally occurs from early August to mid-September.

**GENETIC ANALYSIS:** Allozyme analysis has shown Chewuch spring Chinook to be genetically distinct from, but similar to Chiwawa and Nason Creek (Wenatchee drainage) spring Chinook stocks (WDF and WDW 1993).

## STOCK ORIGIN

This is thought to be a **native** stock with **wild** production. Methow composite spring Chinook are released into the Chewuch River.